

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5653

To establish a grant program to assist State and local governments with improving the administration of elections through activities which may include the modernization of voting procedures and equipment, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2000

Mr. HUTCHINSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a grant program to assist State and local governments with improving the administration of elections through activities which may include the modernization of voting procedures and equipment, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Election Procedures
5 Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby established a pro-
3 gram under which the Attorney General shall make grants
4 to eligible States and eligible units of local government for
5 activities to improve the administration of elections.

6 (b) EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES FUNDED.—In accord-
7 ance with such criteria as the Attorney General may
8 adopt, a State or unit of local government may use funds
9 provided under the program under this Act for such activi-
10 ties as it considers appropriate to improve the administra-
11 tion of its elections, including the modernization or re-
12 placement of equipment, the hiring of additional non-ad-
13 ministrative personnel, and the enhancement of the proce-
14 dures used to tabulate and report election results.

15 (c) ELIGIBILITY.—A State and a unit of local govern-
16 ment is eligible to receive a grant under the program
17 under this Act if it submits to the Attorney General (at
18 such time and in such manner as the Attorney General
19 may require) an application containing such information
20 and assurances as the Attorney General may require.

21 **SEC. 3. OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS.**

22 (a) MATCHING OF FUNDS.—The amount provided by
23 a grant under the program under this Act may not exceed
24 75 percent of the total cost of the activity funded by the
25 grant.

26 (b) REPORTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—During the 1 year-period
2 which begins on the date a State or unit of local
3 government receives a grant under the program
4 under this Act, the State or unit of local government
5 shall submit a report every 6 months to the Attorney
6 General describing the terms of the grant and the
7 activities funded by the grant.

8 (2) REPORT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL TO CON-
9 GRESS.—Based on the information reported by
10 States and units of local government under para-
11 graph (1), the Attorney General shall submit a re-
12 port to Congress on the program under this Act not
13 later than 30 days after each fiscal year during
14 which grants are made under the program.

15 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
17 priated for the first fiscal year which begins after the date
18 of the enactment of this Act \$325,000,000 to carry out
19 this Act (which shall remain available until expended), of
20 which not more than 2 percent may be used for adminis-
21 trative costs associated with the program under this Act.

22 (b) ALLOCATION BETWEEN GRANTS TO STATES AND
23 GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—Of the amount au-
24 thorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act (other
25 than any amounts used for administrative costs)—

- 1 (1) 50 percent shall be used for grants to eligi-
2 ble States; and
- 3 (2) 50 percent shall be used for grants to eligi-
4 ble units of local government.

